

NSC BRIEFING

1 NOVEMBER 1956

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NEAR EAST CRISIS

- I. Arab counter-moves to Israeli and Anglo-French assaults on Egypt have not yet materialized.**

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- i. We think it still a fair bet that deal exists by which Iraq and Israel will partition Jordan.**

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- II. Internationally, except for Israelis, only people generally pleased with development seem to be the French.**

- A. However, National Assembly gave Mollet less extensive support for intervention than it gave last August, when only Communists opposed a strong Suez policy.**

NSA review completed

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III. As of midnight on 31 October, no other nation had taken a public position favoring the Anglo-French action. Increased expressions of disapproval have dominated the reactions.

- A. USSR, Communist China, and Poland have been first of Bloc to denounce armed aggression and collusion between Israel and "Western Imperialists." Official Soviet statement calls on the UN to take immediate steps to halt aggression.**
- B. Marshal Tito declares that French-British-Israeli moves are so closely linked that their action against Egypt is a "single aggression." Yugoslavia warns of danger of war on an extended scale.**
- C. The 23-country Afro-Asian bloc in the UN has denounced the Anglo-French move. Indonesia warns that Asian and African nations will not remain quiet if British and French troops enter Canal Zone.**

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D. India has issued a strong statement condemning the British and French action, and Nehru has called officially on the UN to secure the withdrawal of foreign troops from Egypt.

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- E. The special session of the General Assembly this afternoon will find an overwhelming majority of UN members already on record opposing the Anglo-French action.**
- F. Indeed, it is difficult to see who—if anyone—will support the British and French. They received no support in yesterday's Security Council vote calling the special GA session.**

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